# EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR YOUR FAMILY

If you need emergency food, clothing or shelter, call:

American Red Cross	833-8816
24 hours	800-774-6066
Shelter/24 hours a day/ 7 days a week	1-800-274-3583
Detroit Department of Human Services	852-5634
Children's Aid Society	961-8100

## **UTILITY EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Gas and Electric	800-477-4747
Water	267-7401

# **OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES**

Consumer Advocacy City of Detroit224-6995
Fire Prevention Section Detroit Fire Department596-2932
Michigan Attorney General/Consumer Protection Division517-373-1140
Wayne County Medical Society874-1360
Detroit Bar Association (Lawyer Referral Service)961-3545
Legal Aid Society and Defenders Association964-4700

## **REMEMBER**

## **DON'T SIGN**

any contract until you have checked with your insurance company and are reasonably certain that the contractor has a good business reputation.

If you've signed a contract with a "fly-by-night" operation, immediately seek legal advice to determine your options.

Fire reports are available from Detroit Fire Department Headquarters, Fourth Floor, 250 W. Larned, Detroit, 48226, phone 596-2961.

Information is provided by the Detroit Fire Department, Fire Marshal Division, Public Instruction Section, and the Community Relations Division. For more information, call 596-2968.

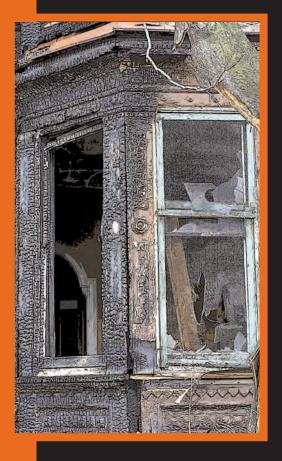
#### **City of Detroit**

Kwame M. Kilpatrick, Mayor

### **City Council**

Kenneth V. Cockrel Jr., President
Monica Conyers, President Pro Tem
JoAnn Watson
Sheila M. Cockrel
Barbara-Rose Collins
Kwame Kenyatta
Alberta Tinsley-Talabi
Martha Reeves
Brenda Jones
Janice M. Winfrey, City Clerk

# AFTER A FIRE



# DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING!

READ THIS and KNOW YOUR RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES



## **DON'T**

let a contractor rush you into signing any contract for repairs without knowing what is required to secure a fire-damaged building.

# TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF YOUR PROPERTY

Insurance companies require **YOU** to protect your property from rain, snow, freezing temperatures and looting. The following temporary repairs may be necessary:

- Board up broken windows
- Secure doors
- Cover holes in roof
- Pump out flooded basement
- In the winter, protect drains, plumbing, toilets, hot water tanks and furnaces from freezing
- Provide a guard if extensive damage poses a safety hazard to passersby

Most insurance companies can identify the names of reputable contractors who can provide this temporary protection service for you. **So, call your insurance company first.** 

## **INVESTIGATIONS**

The Detroit Fire Department Arson Section, by law, has the right to investigate your fire. If the fire was accidental and the cause is known, you can save time for all concerned by cooperating with the fire investigator.

If you suspect arson, report anything suspicious and preserve any evidence.

If you have information regarding an arson fire in your neighborhood or elsewhere, call the Arson Hotline:

# 1-800-44-ARSON (27766)

Rewards of up to \$5,000 will be paid for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of an arson suspect.

# BEFORE AGREEING TO BUILDING REPAIRS...

1

Be sure the contractor is licensed in Detroit. Call the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department at 224-3170 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays. Also check with the Wayne County Clerk under Assumed Names to insure that a company is registered to do business in Detroit at 224-5540.

2

Check the contractor's business reputation. Call the Better Business Bureau at (248)644-9100 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

3

Check with your insurance company for help in choosing a repair contractor who is right for you.

